

Message Text

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43

ACTION OPR-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SY-05 MED-02 PER-01 A-01 /024 W

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R 141316Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2541

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 5823

FOR A/ALS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ALLOW, AFSP, UR

SUBJECT: UPDATE OF POST DIFFERENTIAL REPORT

REFS: EMBASSY'S OMS NOVEMBER 2, 1973 AND JULY 30, 1975.

1. THIS TELEGRAM IS INTENDED TO UPDATE THE BASIC POST DIFFERENTIAL QUESTIONNAIRE.

2. EMBASSY'S MEDICAL OFFICER HAS FOUND A SIGNIFICANT DETERIORATION IN THE LEVEL OF PUBLIC HEALTH STANDARDS IN MOSCOW IN RECENT MONTHS. BECAUSE OF UNKNOWN FACTORS GIARDIASIS LAMBLIA IS NOW ENDEMIC IN MOSCOW. HE ESTIMATES THAT 40 PERCENT OF EMBASSY PERSONNEL AND THEIR DEPENDENTS NOW SUFFER FROM GIARDIASIS LAMBLIA AS A RESULT OF DECLINING HEALTH CONDITIONS. THEREFORE, THE POST MEDICAL OFFICER HAS DECLARED MOSCOW WATER UNSAFE TO DRINK WITHOUT BOILING IT BEFORE CONSUMPTION.

3. ANOTHER ADVERSE FACTOR IS THE EXPOSURE OF EMPLOYEES AND DEPENDENTS TO SIGNIFICANT LEVELS OF ELECTROMAGNETIC RADIATION WHICH IS AIMED AT THE EMBASSY COMPLEX BY SOVIET SOURCES. THE SITUATION HAS GREATLY INCREASED THE EMOTIONAL STRESS AND WORRY OF EMPLOYEES AND THEIR FAMILIES. THIS PROBLEM IS PARTICULARLY ACUTE FOR THE THIRTY-FIVE EMPLOYEES WHO BOTH LIVE AND WORK IN THE EMBASSY AND THEIR DEPENDENTS INCLUDING IN SOME CASES PREGNANT WOMEN AND CHILDREN. WHATEVER THE PHYSICAL AND HEALTH EFFECTS OF
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EXPOSURE TO ELECTROMAGNETIC RADIATION, MOST EMPLOYEES

AND A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF FAMILIES NOW HAVE ADDITIONAL SOURCE OF ANXIETY AND WORRY IN A POPULATION ALREADY SUBJECT TO A UNIQUE VARIETY OF EMOTIONAL STRESSES. ADDITIONAL CLASSIFIED INTO ON THIS TOPIC IS AVAILABLE IN A/SY AND M/MED.

4. DURING THE LAST FEW WEEKS SOVIET AUTHORITIES HAVE UNDERTAKEN A VIGORIOUS AND INTENSIVE CAMPAIGN OF HARASSMENT AGAINST EMBASSY EMPLOYEES AND THEIR FAMILIES. DURING THE COUSE OF A RECENT NIGHT MORE THAN 70 TELEPHONE CALLS WERE RECEIVED BY VARIOUS EMPLOYEES AND THEIR FAMILIES. IN ADDITION TO MAKING IT DIFFICULT TO SLEEP, THESE CALLS OFTEN THREATEN, VIOLENCES AGAINST THE EMPLOYEES AND HIS FAMILY. ON OCCASSION SPECIFIC THREATS WERE MADE AGAINST CHILDREN. A NUMBER OF OFFICERS HAVE RECEIVED DEATH THREATS; OTHERS HAVE BEEN SUBJECT TO INVOLUNTARY DETENTION AND JOSTLING BY GANGS OF SOVIET NATIONALS. FURTHER EXAMPLES OF THREATS INCLUDE: PLAYING FUNERAL MUSIC ON THE TELEPHONE TO AN EMPLOYEE'S YOUNGSTER, DAMAGE TO PRIVATELY OWNED VEHICLES AND REPEATED BOMB THREATS WHICH HAVE REQUIRED THE EVACUATION OF THE EMBASSY AND CHANCERY LIVING QUARTERS.

5. IN RESPONSE TO THE DETERIORATING HEALTH AND SAFETY CONDITIONS IN MOSCOW THE EMBASSY URGES THE DEPARTMENT TO REVISE THE POST DIFFERENTIAL ALLOWANCE UPWARD PROMTPLY.

6. SUBSTANCE OF THIS MESSAGE WAS CLEARED WITH AMBASSADOR STOESSEL BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE FROM POST.

BREMENT

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